

Senate File 2181 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2181

BY DANIELSON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to coverage under the medical assistance
2 program for the costs associated with the birth of a child
3 relinquished under the newborn safe haven Act.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 233.2, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
2 2011, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. (1) A newborn infant admitted to a hospital in
4 accordance with this section and the infant's mother, for the
5 period of labor and delivery until the time of discharge of the
6 mother from the hospital, are presumed eligible for coverage
7 under the medical assistance program, subject to applicable
8 federal regulation.

9 (2) If the physical custody of the newborn infant is
10 relinquished at an institutional health facility, the state
11 shall reimburse the institutional health facility for the
12 institutional health facility's actual expenses in providing
13 care to the newborn infant and in performing acts necessary to
14 protect the physical health or safety of the newborn infant.
15 The reimbursement shall be paid from moneys appropriated for
16 this purpose to the department of human services.

17 Sec. 2. Section 233.6, Code 2011, is amended by adding the
18 following new subsection:

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. Public information announcements and
20 other materials to develop awareness of the option for pregnant
21 women who wish to voluntarily release custody of the newborn
22 infant in accordance with this chapter to be eligible for
23 coverage under the medical assistance program for labor and
24 delivery charges and hospital costs associated with the birth
25 until the time of discharge from the hospital.

26 Sec. 3. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COVERAGE OF HOSPITAL COSTS
27 RELATED TO BIRTH OF CHILD UNDER THE NEWBORN SAFE HAVEN
28 ACT. The department of human services shall amend the medical
29 assistance state plan to provide for coverage of labor and
30 delivery charges and the hospital costs associated with the
31 birth of a child until the mother is discharged from the
32 hospital, for a mother who wishes to voluntarily release
33 custody by relinquishing physical custody of the child after
34 birth pursuant to chapter 233.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill provides for coverage under the medical assistance
2 program (Medicaid) of a newborn infant and the infant's mother
3 for labor and delivery and hospital charges associated with
4 the birth of a child until the mother is discharged from the
5 hospital, when the mother wishes to voluntarily release custody
6 by relinquishing physical custody of the newborn infant after
7 birth pursuant to Code chapter 233, the newborn safe haven Act.

8 The bill directs the department of human services (DHS)
9 in consultation with the department of public health and
10 the department of justice, to distribute public information
11 announcements and other materials to develop awareness of the
12 option for pregnant women who wish to voluntarily release
13 custody of their newborn infant under the newborn safe haven
14 Act to be eligible for coverage under the Medicaid program for
15 labor and delivery charges and hospital costs associated with
16 the birth until the time of discharge from the hospital.

17 The bill also directs DHS to amend the Medicaid state plan to
18 provide for the coverage described in the bill.